EFFECT OF FREEDOM ON THE LITERARY ART OF NEGROES

THE NEW ART

Woodcut by Joseph Huber, repro-duced from "Broom," a magazine devoted to the latest things in art

and literature

ROMANCE WITH A SOUL

Novel Fulfills the Promise

of the First

merely because it has given him an op-portunity to get his characters into such

juxtaposition and into such conflict as

would enable him to deal with his spir-

until the suspense becomes almost pain-

will conclude that there was no other

a brilliant dramatist by a woman whom he never married. She inherits her

father's brilliance, but she has a gen-

nineness and sincerity which he lacked.

Mr. Dodd brings her into contact with a young college professor with a yearn-

ing for fame, a man who had been self-

centered and who had never had his

soul awakened. The book is the story of the effect of Lilia upon this profes-

sor, the effect of genuineness and hatred

of sham and love of beauty for its own

sake upon a man who had not yet begun

to think of beauty save in terms of cash and fame.

with fate, which every great book writ-

ten with insight stirs in the mind of the thoughtful. It is romance with a

**NEW BOOKS** 

Fiction

HOAX. Anonymous, New York: George
H. Doran Company.
Romantic story of a son as viewed by a
quietly amused father.

THROUGH THE SHADOWS. By Cyrl Arlington. New York: Macmillan Com

Four old bachelors, who live together, set out to play Cupid for the nephew who is one of their responsibilities.

THE AMOURETTA LANDSCAPE AND OTHER STORIES. By Adeline Adams. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. Stories shout artists and sculptors, their models and friends and families, by the wife of one of the distinguished sculptors of the day.

Juvenile

HENRIETTA'S INHERITANCE By Leta Horn Richards. Boston: Page Com-

pany.
A sequel to "Only Henrietta," which was one of last season's delightful books for this in their mid-teens. Wholesome and

OUR LITTLE WESTERN INDIAN COUSIN.
By Emily Taylor. Boston: Page Com-

pany.

A new volume in a series now of numerous titles. It sets forth the habits and traits of West Indian children and gives a good picture of the customs of the islands. The book is both interesting and informa-

THEN CAME

MOLLY

Harriet V. C. Ogden

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THE PENN PUBLISHING COMPANY

Philadelphia

AN ORDEAL

HONOR

By Anthony Pryde 4TH LARGE PRINTING. 41 McBRIDE, Publisher, New York

An old-fashioned romance that will be enjoyed by all who like a clean, wholesome love story.

HUNDRED THINGS A GIRL CAN MAKE. By Bonnle Snow and Hugo Froelich. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippin-cott Company.

It is a moving story that will stir

Lilia, the heroine, is the daughter of

commentary on life.

itual problem.

way out.

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THE

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-iacobs 1628 CHESTHUT BOOKS STREET BUY A BOOK A WEEK"

#### Unconscious and Conscious Art Displayed in Poetry by Negroes THREE recent books of verse by and the recent past. It is evident that Negroes afford an excellent opportu- a literary consciousness is awakening

developed by repetition and adjustment they are now repeated in the South. They are dance songs and love songs. songs of animal and nature lore, charms and incantations, and so on. It is remarkable that there are so few in the whole collection that show any realization of the enslavement of the Negro or any resentment against that condition. Almost without exception the rhymes indicate an acceptance of the world and a cheerful adaptation to it. Even where there is resentment against slavery it is not argued, but exhibited indirectly. Take, for example, "Promises of Freedom." in which the singer tells how his master promised to set him free and broke the promise. It

Ole Mosser lakwise promise me. W'en he died, he'd set me free, But ole Mosser go an' make his Will Fer to leave me a-plowin' ole Beck still.

Yes, my ole Mosser promise me But "his papers" didn' leave me free, A doze of pizen helped 'im along, May de Devil preach 'is funer'l song

One may assume that the slave had something to do with the poison, but there is no moralizing or justifying of esentment against injustice. The fact s stated with the simplicity of a primi-

A similar simplicity rules in the songs of nature, a simplicity that sometimes becomes beautiful.

THERE is no sophisticated and trained poet who could produce more nearly perfect things than some that have been handed down by word of mouth among the untutored Negroes. Only a person with a sensitive ear and a feeling for rhythm could have produced the "Bob White Song":

Bob white! Bob white! Is yo' peas all ripe? No—! not—! quite!

Bob white! Bob white! W'en will dey be ripe? Tomor-! row! night

Bob white! Bob white! Does you sing at night".
No-! not-! quite!

W'en is de time right? At can—! die—! light!

he volume are little more than nonense jingles. They are the product of comparatively happy and irresponsible shase of the life of the Negro in America. There is no conscious literary art.

bar began to write. Mr. Johnson says posed to see more deeply and more in his preface that more than one hun- clearly than the rest of us, that the recdred Negroes in the United States have ognition of the futility of hate is expublished volumes of poetry and that pected. Was it not Tennyson who said that the poet should be dowered with that the poet should be dowered with the hate of hate and the scorn of scorn?

THERE GOES THO GROOM By Gordon Arthur Smith New York: E. P. Dutton GEORGE W. DOUGLAS. dred Negroes in the United States have ognition of the futility of hate is exmaining seventy belong to the present

nity for those interested in such mat-ters to examine into the literary de- Johnson's anthology one must admit velopment of the race and incidentally that the Negro has a gift for poetry, into the changing temper of its literary even if the simpler and more spontaneous folk rhymes in Prof. Talley's

The Negro of slavery and the years volume had not demonstrated it. immediately following the emancipa- There is no great poetry in the voltion is represented in "Negro Folk ume; that is hardly to be expected. Rhymes' (Macmillan), a collection of But there is a considerable body of good folk verse made by Prof. Thomas W. poetry, distinguished by imagination Talley, of Fisk University. These and insight and written with a fine rhymes have no known author. They sense of the requirements of verse. grew up among the Negroes and were Some of the poets represented are edu cated men, college professors or preach until they reached the form in which ers or journalists. Others are more humble workers, one of the best having been a kitchen worker in a restaurant.

> Many of these modern Negro poets express their resentment against the race that once enslaved their ancestors and even now lynches their

the stake for an atrocious crime wonder what the victim meant when he said, "Brothers in spirit, brothers in deed are we." Claude McKay, of whom I shall speak a little later, is voluble with P. Dutton & Co.). The greater part of

Why do men sneer when I arise And stand in their councils, And look them eye to eye, And speak their tongue?

Is it because I am black? The late James D. Corrothers was in a very different mood when he wrote of the obstacles in the way of recognition for a Negro versemaker: Thus, my true Brother, dream-led, I Forfend the anathema, following the

hold my head as proudly high As any man,

But the Negro poet has not yet arisen scho sees any overruling Providence in the forced migration of his ancestors from Africa.

THE bitterest of the whole company I is Claude McKay, whose name appears on the title page of "Harlem Shadows' (Harcourt, Brace & Co.) Mr. McKay was born in Jamaica of slave ancestors. He came to this country in 1912 and has lived here since, and has received the medal of the Institute of Arts and Sciences in recognition of his verse. When he came to the United States he intended to study agriculture and go back to Jamaica and teach it to his people. He had not been here more than two years before the emotions of every sensitive reader he gave up the study and abandoned and leave him with a sense of that overthe plan to return to his native island. Whelming pity for man in his struggles He earned a living at whatever work he could get. For a time he was a waiter in the dining car on the railroad between this city and New York. One of his poems is an expression of disgust for the diners and the other waiters alike. Another begins

I will not toy with it nor bend an inch. Deep in the secret chambers of my AFOOT IN ENGLAND. By W. H. Hudson.

ica. There is no conscious literary art, no introspection and no philosophizing. These things had to wait until a later period.

Within the past ticenty years the Negroes have become conscious literary artists.

New York: Alfred A. Kopf. One of the author's books long out of print in Engiand and never printed in America.

CHRONICLES OF CHICORA WOOD. By Elizabeth Aliston Pringle. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Charles Scribner's Sons of the old South by a member of an old Charleston family who recalls plantation days with has written a tenderly beautiful piece. has written a tenderly beautiful piece THEY have written such a considcrable volume of poetry as to justify

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the production of an anthology. Under the title of "The Book of American Negro Poetry" (Harcourt, Brace & the whites. But as he grows in spirit- the spirit the will discommended. The control of the new German constitution. In English, is printed in this commentary. lo.). James Weldon Johnson has set ual and intellectual stature he will disorth selections from the work of more cover that hatred will not redress a than thirty Negroes who have published single wrong nor elevate him a single verse since the late Paul Laurence Dun- inch. It is from the poet, who is sup-

### Brief Notes of Interesting Books

readable novel are not of Paris, but of New York. To be sure, in York. To be sure, in ethical credo and con-

But these people is the haughty heroine, rich granddaughter of a reformer, who folk from chorus girl to playwright, men about town, society women—they are of Broadway New Yorky. Jean is beautiful—and she knows it. But she wants to make the most of her asset. She thinks she can stun men by her beauty but keep them off at the same time. She doesn't want to be a plaster saint-there is no hypocrisy about her. Willing to be of the world worldly, she hesitates to pay the price. Out of Jean's experiences and reactions Mr. Kummer has woven a story that holds the in-terest by its keen observations, its backtage revelations and its sheer good

tions of civilization and adopted the life of a South Sea Islander. The let-

ters were written to Georges Daniel Monfreid and a few to Charles Morice. There is an introduction by Frederick O'Brien, author of "White Shadows in the South Seas." who says: "He was a tortured soul. He could not control his fierce appetites and his body decayed for many years, so that when he died at Atuono it was merely the breaking of a cord long worn almost to sever-ance. Elsewhere Mr. O'Brien says: "To me he was one of the most heart-ening men I know of. As a painter he was absolutely necessary to his age. traceries gathered together with loving which was fast hardening to a wretched artistry, they have much mellowness of scientific precision and which had aban-doned simplicity and breadth. • • appreciatively. Unable to adjust himself to anything about him, either in Europe or the Fannie Hurst Lives With Peasants

South Seas, he yielded only to death, and that stole upon him as he was smil-The letters hardly bear out this glorified description, as Gauguin used about Austria. She has been delivering milk half his letter paper begging money from to the homes of undernourished chilpeople who prosaically and unheroi- dren.

THE NINTH VIBRATION. By L. Adams
Beck. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.
A story of India and the towering Hignal
yas followed by other tales with genuinatmosphere of exotic places and personages. THE stuccoed hagiology of Frederick cally simply strove with the obstacles atmosphere of exotic places and personages. Arnold Kummer's "Plaster Saints" of civilization and put up with life as it comes, while most of the remainder teresting. The saints and sinners of his very ries of art, with somewhat caustic young man and a mystic, idealistic girl, set Co.

The story of a rebellious, physically wearly young man and a mystic, idealistic girl, set against the outdoor background which Harriet Comstock knows so well how to handle in her novels. ries of art, with somewhat caustic abuse of those who believed it was something different from his idea. The book, which was translated by Ruth Pielkovo, is illustrated by a number of Gauguin's extraordinary-looking works.

A story of action arising out of a constructed along the lines of his highly. J. P. Marquard. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. A story of action arising out of a con-princey against Napoleon, full of flashing thrilling incidents. duct code they act and think in a way renders of fiction and viewers of novies like to believe the "Vie Parisienne."

Gauguin's extraordinary-looking works, constructed along the lines of his highly individualized theories.

CAPTAIN NATHANIEL BROWN leaves home for the stage, various stage U PALMER was one of those from men who went down to the sea in

wooden ships and made the American flag re-epected in the Seven Seas. In "Captain An American Master Mariner

Nathaniel Brown Palmer" (Mac millan) John R. Spears has compiled the life story of this doughty mariner, who, a few generations ago, was probably the leading mariner in United States.

His early voyages as a whaler, his trips of discovery to the Antarctic, his voyages to China and Japan with an writing.

IN "THE LETTERS OF PAUL GAUGUIN" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) we have presented what is virtually an epistolary sketch of the life and artistic philife and artistic philife and artistic philife and artistic philife and be proceed what is under the gradual ending of packets, all make for interesting reading to any one who is intrigued by the story of the sea.

Mr. Spears has avoided any attempt at embellishment, and in doing so has lost some of the tang of the sea, which might be expected, but the life story of Captain Palmer carries itself by the multiplicity of interesting events with

multiplicity of interesting events with which it was crowded. "OURSELVES WHEN YOUNG"

(Putnam's) is a collection of de-lightful sketches of child life by H. T. Sheringham. These may best be described as comparable in sub stance and spirit wit Memories hood, Kenneth Gra

hame's "Dream Days" and "The Golden Age." They are done with rare in-sight into the child-heart and understanding of youthful character. Delicate They look backward lovingly and

Fannie Hurst, whose latest collec-tion of short stories the Harpers have just published, is fiving in of Austrian peasants near Saalsburg. published, is living in the home



a Story Teller A couple of years ago, Edward Alden

Jewell, war veteran, actor and news-paperman, tired of the humdrum of journalism, dropped his position as Sun-day editor of the New York Tribune and hied himself to Bermuda, determined to turn his varied experiences to literary use. "The Charmed Circle." the first offering from his typewriter, jumped into immediate prominence and showed Mr. Jewell as deft at characterization Mr. Jewell as deft at characterization with a goodly penchant for light comedy. Now comes his second book. "The White Kami" (Alfred A. Knopf), and it presents the young author in a new light—this time as a story teller. Characterization, although still deft and painstakingly done, is put secondary to the running of the story. That "The White Kami" never lags in its action, never is clogged by attempts at superliative writing and that withal it is always consistent and reasonable, speaks much for future offerings from the su-Lee Wilson Dodd's Second much for future offerings from the au-

acters two men, both of whom are re-freshingly new types. One, a swaggerpeared a year or two ago its author MR. JOHNSON, who has put his of immensely better equipment than the of immensely better equipment than the average. "The Book of Susan" gave evidence that it was written by a man some of the others, for he only makes then write merely an entertaining story, the whites who have burned a Negro at the stake for an atrocious crime woninative clerk, is accidentally shanghaied by an opera troupe about to tour the world. He suddenly develops into a real soldier of fortune, but not until he has gone through a soldier of through size. of an opium plantation. The man falls victim to the poppy. In the meantime, the other, a prosaic, plodding unimag-Lee Wilson Podd, its author, has inative clerk, is accidentally shanghaied justified this estimate of him by his second novel, "Lilia Chenoworth" (E. hate. Joseph S. Cotter, Jr., merely the action takes place in a woman's college in New England and in a theatre in

In the unraveling of the tangled skel lege in New England and in a theatre in Paris, but it is a novel of neither the theatre nor the woman's college. The theatre nor the woman's college. The real action takes place in the mind of a story as has been put on the book Heart."

Caine, William—"Mendoza and a Little Lady."

Paris, John—"Kimono."

Twon J. A.—"Scarlet Tanager."

Wells. H. G.—"Secret Places of the story as has been put on the book." the principal characters. Mr. Dodd shelves in some time.

#### DR. HOLLOPETER'S OPTIMISM ABOUT CURE OF HAY FEVER For hay fever sufferers who are anx-

ious to know just what ails them we can imagine no more instructive, enter-If the realism of his setting may be unsatisfactory the realism of his chartaining and helpful book than 'Hay Fever, Its Prevention and Cure,' by William C. Hollopeter, M. D. 1Funk & Wagnalls Company.) acters is so genuine that the interest in their fate grows as the books progresses ful. The tragic denouement comes with a shock, but on reflection the reader That many readers have found it to

be all of these things is evidenced by the fact that the book is now in its fourth edition. We have it on the authority of one sufferer that hay fever is "the very devil." It is not too much to say. therefore, that Dr. Hollopeter treats his subject as the oldtime clergyman treated the text, "The devil he goeth about like a roaring lion." Said he: "We must consider first who the devil

"The White Kami," His Second
Novel, Stamps Jewell

Sterm Teller

Hollopeter arrives at the conclusion, strengthened by years of experience and observation, that there is first an exciting agent, usually some kind of plant pollen, and second a system predisposed by debility of some character to the influence of the irritant.

That the disease may be prevented, and that it may be cured is argued with a skill that will appeal to every logical mind. That there have been many cures effected is without doubt. And that, in spite of this, here and there

Miscellaneous

Bishop, E. S.—"Narcotic Drug Problem."

Bollman Gladys—"Motion Pictures for Community Needs."

Bryce, James—"International Relations."

Hartman, Gertrude—"Child and His School." Mr. Jewell takes for his central char-Inman, S. G.-"Problems in Pan-Ameri-

Canism."

Kozminsky, Isidore—"Magio and Science of Jeweis and Stones."

Mayers, Lewis—"Federal Service."

Prescott, F. C.—"Poetic Mind.

Stearns, H. E., ed.—"Civilization in the United States."

Vanderlip, F. A.—"What Next in Eupope."

Caine, William- Mendoza and a Little

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WILLIAM BEEBE

in the N. Y. Times

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in the right way. These vol-umes should stand with Wells' "History" and be

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whose mind and eyes are

now and then lifted to the

stars and the birds, no mat-

ter where his body may be.

New York-London

COME critics have attacked Gerald O'Donovan's magnificent novel

# **VOCATIONS**

because they have read into a fine work of art (with as breathlessly thrilling a story as any novel recently published) an attack on the Catholic Church, accusing Mr. O'Donovan of being a propagandist and of "insinuating a definite thesis that priests are either brainless or treacherous, and nuns are weak, feeble, and sheeplike creatures."

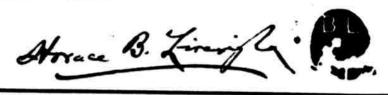
GEORGE MOORE, an enthusiastic admirer of VOCATIONS, writes to Mr. O'Donovan: "The charge brought against you is that the novel is propaganda. It is no such thing. no more than Esther Waters is propaganda, although accused of being such in the beginning."

The New York Herald says: "It is not an attack upon the church, but it is a powerful demonstration of the inherent wrongness of asceticism. . . . The tragedy of the fully normal woman who is forced to become a nun and seeks a way out of her prison, . . . has nowhere as a whole been so comprehensively treated as here. There is nothing salacious in the book, nothing rubbed in on purpose to be goaded over. The sins gross and petty; the vileness and slime are all integrally a part of the plot, not over-accentuated and always kept in their place."

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characters who satisfy the mind wholly, and permanently enrich one's knowledge of human nature. Kitty and Winny Curtin, although their portraits are necessarily fainter and more delicate in tone, cling almost as tenaciously to the mind. VOCATIONS is the work of an extraordinarily mature art."

This is the first book that I have ever published that I have chosen thus to recommend publicly in this personal manner. I believe it to be one of the best novels that have been printed on either side of the Atlantic in a number of years.



By the author of "The Rising Tide of Color"

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